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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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| 09/730,515 | 12/15/00 | KURODA | K 107156-00033 |

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EXAMINER

HINDI, N
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2651
DATE MAILED:

06/13/01

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/730,515

Applicant(s)
Kuroda et al

Examiner
NABIL HINDI

Art Unit
2651



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec. 15, 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2651

In response to applicant's pre-amendment dated Dec. 15, 2000. The following action is taken:

The drawings are objected to because the drawing do not show the claimed invention as now being claimed. Correction is required.

Applicant is respectfully asked to identify the figure that read on the claimed invention including the corresponding elements of the claimed limitation.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The specification as filed does not provide support for the invention as claimed. The specification does not show the limitation "for producing a tracking error signal based on subtracting the second difference signal, a level of which is adjusted". Fig 8b shows a tracking error signal outputted based on the difference between the first subtracting means 66 and a multiplying factor 77 and not as claimed. The specification does not show the limitation " a multiplier for multiplying ...value" as shown in fig 8b the multiplier is done on an addition signal 67 and not a difference signal.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are

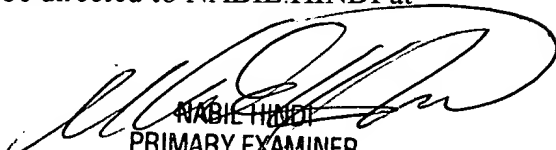
Art Unit: 2651

such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either one of the following references Ohno et al (5828634); Takahashi et al (5708636); Takahashi et al (5815473); and Ohsato (5159589).

The claims merely read on a disk having guiding tracks with pre-formatted address or servo data and data tracks to record/erase and read data. The apparatus having a first and second photo detection means, a first and second subtracting means and tracking error signal generating means. The reference Ohno et al discloses the use of a first and second photo detection means fig 10 elements 8 and 10, first and second subtracting means 12, 15, multiplying means 25 and third subtracting means 26 to output a tracking error signal. The reference Takahashi et al discloses the use of a first and second photo detection means D1, D2, first and second subtracting means 26, 27 multiplying means 28 and third subtracting means to output a tracking error signal Te. The reference Takahashi et al discloses the use of a first and second photo detection means 10a, 10d, first and second subtraction means 13d, 13c, multiplying means 13g and third subtraction means 13h. The reference Ohsato discloses the use of a first and second photo detection means 60, 62, first and second subtraction means 46, 48a, multiplying means 52 and third subtraction means 54 to output a tracking error signal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to NABIL HINDI at telephone number (703) 308.1555


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